

Name: _____

Jesus

from

Baby



to

Teen



8 Studies from Luke 1:1 to 2:52

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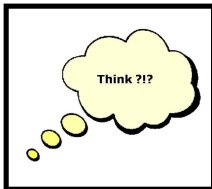
The Studies: How they work!



This picture will always refer to the **opening question**. The starter's block. This question will help to get your brain in gear and your thoughts out of your head.



This picture is all about **observation**. To answer these questions all you have to do is look at what the passage is actually saying. It is OK to quote the Bible word for word when answering these questions.



This picture is all about **interpretation**. These questions are going to help you think about what the passage means. For these type of questions you are going to have to go deeper, you can't just quote the passage here!



This is where the rubber hits the road. This picture is about **application**. This is where we will think about how the passage is going to change our lives. This is what being a Christian is all about; we trust in Jesus and do what he says. We find out how Jesus wants us to live from the Bible.

Study One: Helping Theophilus sort things out!



How do you work out if something is true?

Read Luke 1:1-4



What have many undertaken?

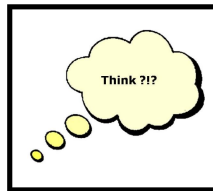
Where did the information come from?

What has 'I' (Luke) done?

Where does he start?

What did Luke do with what he found out?

What was Luke's goal for Theophilus?



What do you think Luke is talking about when he mentions the things 'fulfilled' among us?

Who were the eyewitness and servants of the word?

How do words like 'careful investigation' and 'orderly account' and 'know the certainty of' help us to trust that the bible is telling the truth?



What would happen if the Bible was not true?

If the Bible is trustworthy; how should a Christian use the Bible?

How would you respond to someone who says the Bible is just made up stories?

Pray

- **Thank God that the Bible is trustworthy**
- **Ask God to help us to read and understand the bible**
- **Ask God to help us do what the Bible says**

Study Two: Zec, Liz and God's promises



How do you feel when someone doesn't believe what you say to them?



Read the passage in the following sections. On the next page fill out the character profiles on Zec, Liz and their future baby after reading each section.

Read Luke 1:5-7

Read Luke 1:8-17

Read Luke 1:18-20

Read Luke 1:21-25



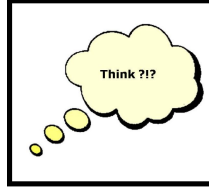
Zechariah



Elizabeth



Future Baby (John)



Some interesting things to notice:

- In verse 7 it is mentioned that Elizabeth is barren. She has lots of company in the Bible: Sarah (Abraham's wife), Rebekah (Jacob's wife), Rachel (Isaac's wife) and Hannah (Samuel's mum) were all barren at one point. If a woman in the Bible can't have kids, it means God has a reason for it. Usually it's so God can point out the fact that he is going to keep his promises.
- In verse 9 Zec goes into the temple to burn incense. This is especially important because this job only happened once in a priest's life.

In verse 15—17 the baby is described. Who/what from the Old Testament does this remind you of?

READ MALACHI 4:1-6. These are the last words of the Old Testament. The LORD is coming to judge. What role does v17 give Zec and Liz's baby?

Who do you think the 'LORD' is talking about?

In verses 18-20 Zec gets in trouble. What did he do wrong?

What is the significance of verses 24-25?



How can you be prepared for Jesus coming for the second time?

Trusting God's promises means we are living with 'a view to heaven'. What does that mean and what difference does that make to your life?

Pray

- **Ask God to help us to change our lives so we are prepared for him to return**
- **Thank God that he keeps his promises**

After praying:

In pairs or threes write a 1 minute play about this passage and perform it for the other group.

You can use the space below to write your play.

Study Three: The King is promised!



How do you think you would react if an angel gave you a message?

Read Luke 1:26—38



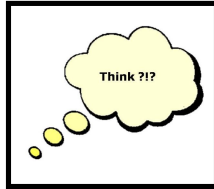
On the following page jot down the things that you learn about Mary and the future Jesus.



Mary



Future Jesus



READ 2 SAMUEL 2:8-16. What is the significance of all the talk about King David in this passage?

What does this passage tell us about the position and authority of Jesus?

What choice does Mary face in verse 34?

How would hearing about Elizabeth helped Mary to trust in God's promise?



What things make it hard to trust in God?

Is Jesus your King? Why/why not?

Trusting God means following him in every part of your life. What would that look like in each of the following areas?

How you act at school —

Who you choose to go out with —

How you speak to your parents —

Pray

- **Thank God for sending Jesus, the promised king**
- **Ask God to help us to trust in him**
- **Ask God to help us make changes to our lives even if it is hard**

Write a newspaper article reporting on the angel visiting Mary.
Remember to mention the significance of Jesus being named as
the king to rule forever in David's line.

THE JERUSALEM POST



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Study Four: The meeting of two children



In what ways can you respond to really, really, really, really good news?

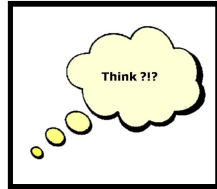
Read Luke 1:39-56



Why does Liz feel she is favoured?

Why does Liz think Mary is blessed?

How does Mary describe God in her song?



Mary and Liz (and Liz's baby) show us the two basic responses to what God has accomplished. What are they?

How does verse 45 explain how to live as a Christian?

What does it mean to 'fear God'? (v50)

What do verses 54—55 remind us of?



What does responding to God in joy look like?

Christians live their lives trusting in God. What would that look like when life sucks?

Elizabeth was filled with joy because she saw that she was a part of God's plans for the world. As teenagers, what part can we play in being a part of God's plans?

Pray

- **Ask God to help us respond to him with joy**
 - **Ask God to help us trust him in every part of our lives**
-

Write a diary entry from Elizabeth's point of view, reflecting on Mary's visit after she left.

Study Five: Zec gets his voice back!



Were you, or do you know of anyone, who is named after someone in their family?

Read Luke 1:57—80

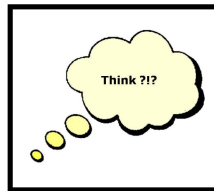


What is the controversy in verses 57-64?

How did the people respond when Zec confirmed the child's name?

What things does Zec mention in his praise psalm that we have heard before?

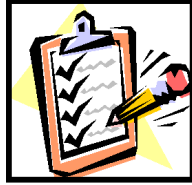
What is John's job going to be? (v76-77)



Initially Zec didn't trust that God could do what he said he would. What attitude does Zec display now?

What do you think is the significance of verse 66?

How does verse 77 link with the promises to Abraham (Gen 12:1-3) and what we learnt about the promises to King David?



Zec decided to do what God wanted despite what the people around him thought (e.g. naming the baby John). What are some situations in your life where you might have to do the same thing?

This passage shows us that God keeps his promises. How does this help us to trust Jesus?

Do you think that your sins are forgiven? Why/why not?

Pray

- Thank God that he keeps his promises
 - Thank God that he has provided a way for our sins to be forgiven
 - Ask God to help us live his way even if the people around us don't want to
-

Using 20 words or less, summarise Zec's praise psalm. Read to the other group and the leaders will judge which is the best one.

You can use the space below to write it down.

Study Six: A King born in a feed trough!?! ---



Do you think that the traditional Christmas story teaches people what the Bible is really saying?

Read Luke 2:1-21 ---

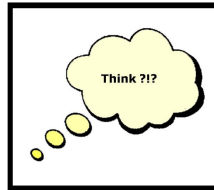


What significant place is mentioned in verses 1-7?

What are the shepherds told about the newborn baby?

How do the shepherds respond after seeing Jesus?

What prophecies or promises are fulfilled in this passage? (v4 with Micah 5:1-2, v7, v16, v21)



What is the significance of Joseph and Mary returning to Bethlehem?

Why is what the shepherds are told in v11 momentous news?

Why do you think the shepherds responded the way that they did?



Do you follow Jesus the King with your whole life? Why/why not?

What do you think are the biggest things that stop you from following King Jesus completely?

What are some ways that you can change your life to serve our King Jesus?

Pray

- **Thank God that he sent Jesus to be the King**
 - **Ask God to forgive us for the times when we don't follow the King**
 - **Ask God to help us to serve Jesus with all of our lives**
-

Write and perform a Steve Irwin style docudrama about Jesus being born.

Use the space below to plan

Youth Muster - Write some notes below!

Study Eight: Jesus hangs out in the temple



Have your parents ever lost you?

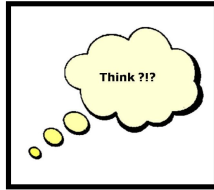
Read Luke 2:41-52



What did Jesus do after his parents left?

What was the reason Jesus gave for doing this?

What different reactions did people have to the teenage Jesus?



What does the answer Jesus gives to his parents say about him?

What does the response of the temple teaches show us about Jesus?

Why is it important that Jesus was obedient to his parents?



Are you obedient to your parents like Jesus was?

What things can you do this week to show your parents that you are obedient to them?

What things have we learnt about Jesus over the last 8 studies?

Pray

- Thank God for the example of Jesus
 - Ask God for help to obey your parents
-

Write the conversation that the temple teachers might have had after Jesus left with his parents.

Bethlehem

The lights of Bethlehem seen from the fields surrounding the hill-top town. See too the picture on page 516.

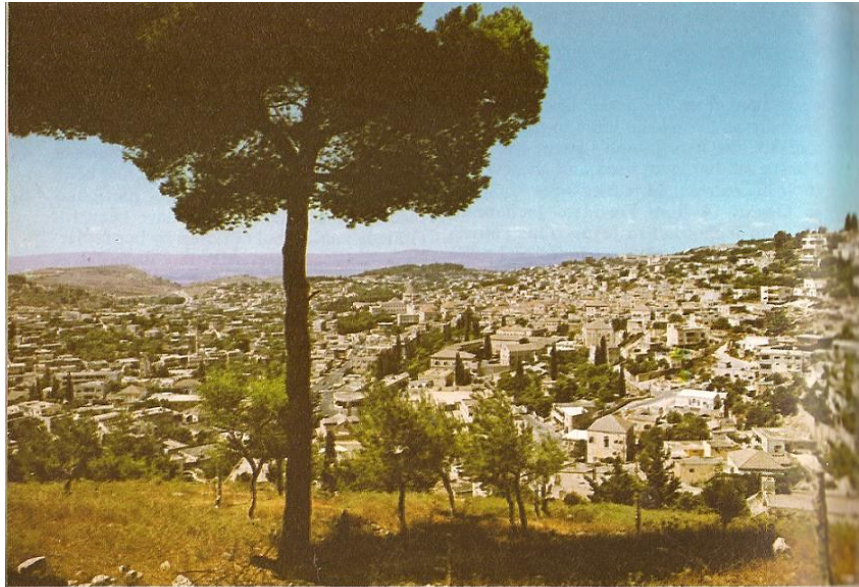


Lake of Galilee

The Lake of Galilee, scene of so much of the teaching and so many of the healings of Jesus. The view is from the fishing harbour at Tiberias looking towards Magdala and the north-eastern corner of the lake.



Nazareth



Nazareth lies over 1200ft up among the hills of Galilee.

The temple in Jesus' day



